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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #527

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1943

DAY & DATE

11:30-12:00 NOON CWT BLUE

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTESCHARACTERSCAST

LUCILE HUSTING
 KATHERINE CARD
 JOHN LARKIN
 HARVEY HAYS
 ARTHUR KOHL

SOUNDREMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

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OVER THE HILLS, 1940-1945.

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UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20315

2011
2012
2013
2014
2015

2. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

3. MUSIC: Theme

4. ANNOUNCER: Wood from our forests is coming in to pinch-hit for many
 5. another vital war material these days. There's one
 6. important war item however for which wood always has been
 7. the essential material. That's the lowly cross-tie,
 8. upon which our whole rail transportation system depends.
 9. No satisfactory substitute has ever been found that'll
 10. come up to the common wooden railroad tie in all-around
 11. service. So one of the big war jobs today is getting out
 12. the ties to keep the trains rolling. Now, to the Pine
 13. Cone Ranger Station where we find Ranger Jim Robbins and his
 14. wife, Bess, and Jim's assistant, Jerry Quick. They're
 15. waiting for Jerry's sweetheart, the local schoolma'am Mary
 16. Halloway to show up for supper. At the moment, they're
 17. talking about the recently announced sale of timber from
 18. the county school lands. Here they are:

19. JERRY: (FADING IN) I think it's swell, Jim. It's about time the
 20. county school board put those lands to some use.

21. JIM: Well, I don't know, Jerry. I don't see what the school board
 22. coulda done with those timber stands before now. That's
 23. pretty young stuff, you want to remember. But I guess
 24. it's about ready now for some cutting.

1. BESS: But if it's such young timber, Jim, should they be cutting
2. it even now? Shouldn't they leave it til the trees get big?
3. JERRY: Yeah, that's right, partly, Mrs. Robbins. But you see that
4. timber on the school lands is pretty nearly all even-aged
5. pine, and it's thick as the hair on a dog's back - well,
6. almost.
7. JIM: That's right, Bess. You see, if they made a partial cut
8. now, to thin the stand, the rest of the timber would grow
9. faster....It's the same situation we've got on some of the
10. National Forest lands that are all around the school holdings.
11. We'd planned to get some improvement cutting done like
12. that on the National Forest lands too, but I guess that's
13. out now, 'cause all the labor around here is busy as all
14. Harry on other logging jobs these days.
15. JERRY: Well, who's going to cut the timber on the school lands, Jim?
16. JIM: They sold it to a fellow from Willow Glen, I understand.
17. I'm not even sure what he's going to use the timber for.
18. Haven't heard much about it, so far.
19. BESS: Maybe Mary Holloway will know about it, Jim.
20. JIM: Yeah. Being a school teacher, she probably knows all about
21. it. She's coming over for supper tonight, didn't you say?
22. JERRY: Yeah, I wish that gal would hurry up and get here too, I'm
23. hungry as a horse.
24. JIM: (CHUCKLES) That's nothing unusual, I'd say.
25. ALL LAUGH

BESS: Well all you had to do was wish, Jerry. Because here's Mary now.

DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

JERRY: Boy, talk of the angels....Hello, Mary.

MARY: (COMING ON - GAYLY) Hello, everybody. Sorry to be so late.

BESS: Oh, it didn't matter a bit, Mary.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Except to Jerry.....Say, you look proud as a puppy about something.

JERRY: Yeah, give out with the good news, Mary. What's happened? School burn down or somethin'?

MARY: Don't be silly, Jerry....I'm happy because..well..I've been invited to make a little speech tomorrow morning, officially opening the timber sale on the school lands. There!

BESS: Oh, Mary, that's grand! So they're going to have a ceremony?

MARY: Yes, and everybody's going to be there.

JERRY: Everybody? Jim and I are invited too?

MARY: Of course, silly. By everybody, though, I meant the schoolchildren and the parents and the school board and, well, everybody.

JIM: Say, that's fine, Mary. But what's it all about, this ceremony?

MARY: Don't you see? The school board made the decision to sell the timber because of the war. So it's going to be sort of a patriotic celebration. They want the children and their parents to actually see how trees on their school lands are going to war.

1. JIM: Say, Mary, that's a swell idea. We can't go too far in
 2. this country teachin' our youngsters the value of good
 3. forestry.
 4. JERRY: And my darling is going to make the opening address, huh?
 5. What're you going to talk about, Mary? Or is that kinda
 6. embarrassing at this moment?
 7. BESS: Don't you worry about Mary. She'll do splendidly.
 8. MARY: Oh, Jerry's just teasing as usual, Mrs. Robbins....Yes, I
 9. know exactly what I'm going to say. It'll be all about
 10. how fine it is to contribute in this way to the war job,
 11. and I'll point out how the men are going to cut only the
 12. trees that are ready to be cut, and how they're going to
 13. leave plenty of others to that more trees will always be
 14. growing to provide timber for the future, and...well, you
 15. know, how the forest on our school lands is going to be a
 16. permanent asset to the community, and all.
 17. JIM: Yeah, that's the stuff! We were just talkin' about it
 18. before you came, Mary. And I bet you'll do a bang-up job,
 19. too, young lady. You've certainly got a swell chance to
 20. point out an example of good forest conservation, right on
 21. the ground.

22.

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1. MARY: There's one thing, though, Mr. Robbins. I wish you'd go
2. over to the woods with me a little ahead of time so you can
3. point out some of the things about the logging work....
4. things I may not be too sure about. Will you?

5. JIM: Of course, Mary.

6. JERRY: Hey! I'm not at all flattered. Don't you think I can point
7. out anything, too?

8. MARY: (LAUGHING) I'm not sure I can trust you to point out the
9. right things, Jerry. Don't forget, the school boards going
10. to be present and what I say has got to be exactly right.

11. ALL LAUGH

12. JERRY: Well, I like that.

13. BESS: I think we'd better eat now. You can talk over the program
14. for (FADE) tomorrow while we're having supper.

15. MUSIC INTERLUDE

16. FADE IN MOTOR, SUSTAIN

17. JERRY: There she is up ahead, folks. Golly, look at the crowd
18. that's come out.

19. JIM: Look, Mary, did you say you were goin' to open this operation?
20. Looks to me like they're already workin' full steam up ahead
21. there.

22. JERRY: Yeah, see, they've got their sawmill set up and loggings
23. already started.

24. MARY: That's right. They've been up here almost a week already.

25. JIM: Oh, I didn't know that.

1. MARY: Just the same, we're considering this ceremony this
2. morning as the actual opening of the operation, see?
3. JERRY: Oh yeah, sure. This'll make it official or somethin'. Is
4. that it?
5. BESS: Jim, look ahead there. Do they have to clear off the land
6. like that when they start logging?
7. JIM: Hmm. I was wondering about that, Bess.....
8. JERRY: Hey, there's something screwy here, Jim.
9. MARY: I...I'm not sure what you're driving at, you and Jerry, Mr.
10. Robbins.
11. JIM: (WORRIED) Well, I hope I'm wrong, that's all.....We better
12. stop here, I reckon.
13. CAR MOTOR OUT, DOORS OPEN AND CLOSE, OCCASIONAL BUZZ SAW SOUNDS,
14. AXES AND SAWS OFF, CONTINUE IN DISTANCE.
15. JERRY: There! All out okay?
16. BESS: Yes, thanks, Jerry.
17. JIM: By George, you're right, Bess. That's the way they're
18. logging this place. Clear off.
19. JERRY: Yeah, it's a mess. Not a tree left standing.
20. JIM: Hmm. It's a cross-tie operation, huh. See the new ties
21. piled there by the sawmill? And they're cutting everything
22. in sight...I don't get this.

MARY: Oh dear! It's terrible. And all the children over there, and their parents, and the school board and...

1 there, and their parents, and the school board and...

2 JIM: By George, I don't know what the school board had in

3 mind lettin' this timber be cut like this. Why, this

4 forest's goin' to be wiped clean out if they keep going

5 this way. There won't be anything left here for years

6 to come.

7 BESS: Mary, I'm so sorry about your...

8 JERRY: Hey, that's right. That speech you were gonna make.

9 This doesn't fit what you had in mind, at all....Look,

10 hadn't you better back out of making that talk, Mary?

11 MARY: I...I can't, Jerry...(BRAVELY) And I wouldn't if I could.

12 JIM: (HEARTILY) Good for you, Mary.

13 MARY: (HOTLY) I don't care if the school board is here. I

14 don't care what happens. I'm going to tell them exactly

15 what I think about this.. this awful mess...I'm going

16 to tell them.....

17 BESS: Hush, Mary. There's someone coming.

18 MARY: Yes, it's Mr. Martin, the chairman of the school board.

19 JIM: (SOTTO) Still gonna make that speech, Mary?

20 MARY: Yes...(LOUDER) Good marning, Mr. Martin.

21 MARTIN: (COMING ON) Hello there, Miss Halloway. We've all been

22 waiting for you.

23 JIM: Look, Mr. Martin. I wonder if I could get together with

24 you and the fella that bought the timber here. There's

25 a couple of things I want to...

1 MARTIN: Yes, of course, Jim. Soon as the program's over with.
2 Right now we got to get going with the program...Miss
3 Holloway, shall we go over to that little platform I had the
4 boys rig up? The folks are waiting.

5 MARY: (SOFTLY) I'm ready, Mr. Martin.

6 JIM: (SOTTO) Good luck, Mary...

7 MARTIN: (CALLING) Hey, Joe, tell 'em to break off with that sawing...
8 (STRAIGHT) Right this way, Miss Holloway.

9 SAWMILL SOUNDS OUT, BRING ON APPLAUSE

10 MARTIN: All right, folks, all right. (APPLAUSE OUT- SOUND OF
11 AXES AND SAWS CONTINUE IN DISTANCE) Well, I guess
12 everybody's here. Except for the men working out in the
13 woods. They're going to keep right on working, getting
14 out these railroad ties for war...(SCATTERED APPLAUSE)
15 Well, I don't have to tell you who this little lady here
16 is. You all know her. And I know she's got some mighty
17 important things to say. About this great patriotic
18 job we're doing here. So I'll just let Miss Holloway
19 talk for herself. Folks, our popular school teacher, Miss
20 Mary Holloway!

21 LOUD APPLAUSE

22 MARY: Please!(APPLAUSE OUT) (PAUSE)....Mr. Martin, members of the
23 Pine Cone County School Board, children and parents...I
24 had hoped I could say a great many wonderful things here
25 this morning. And I had prepared myself, or so I thought,
to do the occasion justice. These were the notes I had
prepared, here on this paper. (SOUND OF PAPER TEARING)

1 JERRY: (SOTTO) Holy smoke, Jim, she's tearing her notes to bits
2 right in front of Mr. Martin.

3 JIM: (SOTTO) Quiet, Jerry.

4 MARY: The truth is I'm not prepared. I'm not really prepared
5 because I didn't take the time to come out here and see
6 what was going on here when this operation really started..
7 last week.

8 MARTIN: (SORRO) Hold on there, Miss. What're you.....
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1 MARY:

2 (FAST AND GRADUALLY BREAKING) I had hoped to point out
3 what was going on here as a fine example for all of us.
4 I had hoped to say that we were all involved in a patriotic
5 work and through it all that we were observing how a fine
6 forest area should be handled for the good of the forest
7 itself, for the good of our school system, for our
8 county and our Nation. But I can't say that now. All I
9 can truthfully say, Mr. Martin, is this. I don't think what
10 is being done here is patriotic at all. I had no idea you
11 would have it logged this way. I think it's terrible.
12 You're not improving this land. You're ruining it. True,
13 you're furnishing railroad ties and I know they're needed
14 badly today. But I wonder if it needs to be done by
15 making a desolate waste of all our school lands...
16 That's my talk, Mr. Martin. I'm ashamed. Not for myself
17 alone but for those children out there who came here today
18 and learned, not the lesson of good forestry..(VOICE BREAKING)
19 but that of bad forestry and waste...(BUZZ OF CROWD) Now,
20 if you'll excuse me.....

21 BUZZ OF CROWD UP, SCATTERED APPLAUSE. FADE OUT

22 PAUSE

23 MARY: (FADING IN, CALLING, OFF) Mrs. Robbins...Mrs Robbins...

24 BESS: Here we are, Mary.
25

1 MARY: (COMING UP, HALF CRYING) Oh, I thought I'd never find
2 you...Mrs. Robbins, what have I done...
3 BESS: You did splendidly, Mary. That's what.
4 JIM: You sure did, gal.
5 MARY: But..don't you realize...it might cost me my job, and
6 everything.
7 Mr. Martin's chairman of the school board.
8 JIM: Well now, I've just been talking with Martin and the
9 timber buyer, Mary, and they've decided to work out a
10 new arrangement for cutting those trees.
11 JERRY: Have they, Jim? What is it?
12 JIM: They're going to make it only a partial cutting..log
13 selectively, see. They'll follow out the same good
14 forestry plan that Al Perkins is using on his tie operation
15 over in the north end of the county, see; and the man
16 that's buying the timber is glad to do it that way 'cause
17 he knows he can get the ties out with less labor and wear
18 on tires if he doesn't have to handle all the small trees.
19 Just so he meets his contract and...
20 JERRY: Yeah but can he, Jim? He won't get as many ties logging
21 selectively as he would clear-cutting. Can he meet his
22 contract?
23
24
25

1 JIM: I was coming to that. Well sell him timber off the
2 National Forest to make up the difference. We've got
3 stands that need thinning just like this one, you know.
4 And they join up with this land so he won't have to move
5 his equipment or anything.

6 JERRY: Gee, that's swell, Jim...Oh oh. Here comes Mr. Martin
7 now.

8 MARTIN: (COMING UP) There you are..Been looking for you, Miss
9 Halloway.

10 MARY: Mr. Martin..I'm sorry about what I did, but I couldn't help
11 it... If you think I ought to resign or...

12 MARTIN: Resign? Look here, young lady, if you're a smart enough
13 teacher to teach us old dodgers on the school board a few
14 things, like you just did, I reckon you're okay to teach
15 our kids.

16 MARY: Oh...uh...Why everything's worked out beautifully!

17 BESS: Yes, Mary. Of course it has...I'm thinking of the
18 children, too.

19 I shouldn't wonder but that you helped to teach them today
20 one of the most valuable lessons they'll ever learn.

21 JERRY: Huh? What's that?

22 BESS: The lesson of free speech, Jerry, free speech, that
23 always leads to the proper solution of a problem in the
24 truly democratic way.

25 MUSICAL F INALE

1 ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week
2 during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network
3 presentation with the cooperation of the Forest
4 Service, United States Department of Agriculture.
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11 bj ks 3:00 pm
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